

Oneida County Technology Committee Meeting  
Monday, April 22, 2013 9:00 a.m.  
Oneida County Courthouse, Committee Room #2  
1 S. Oneida Avenue  
Rhinelander, WI 54501

**Committee Members present:** Dave Hintz/Committee Chairman and County Board Supervisor, Billy Fried/County Board Supervisor, Bob Martini/County Board Supervisor, Don Sidlowski/Technology Specialist

**Committee Members not present:** Dan Hess/Lieutenant – Oneida County Sheriff's Department

**Committee Advisors present:** Lynn Grube/Oneida County Information Technology Systems Director, Tim Brown/UW-Extension Community, Natural Resource & Economic Development Agent

**Others present:** John Langeland/Town of Sugar Camp

**Call the meeting to order:**

Hintz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

**Approve meeting agenda with order of items at discretion of Chairman:**

Motion by Martini to approve today's agenda with order of the items at the discretion of the Chairman. Second by Fried. All members present voting 'Aye'. Motion carried.

**Approve minutes of March 20, 2013 meeting:**

Motion by Fried to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2013 meeting. Second by Sidlowski. All members present voting 'Aye'. Motion carried.

**Feedback from County Board update:**

Fried states that Hintz did a very good job with updating the County Board on the Technology Committee's progress and this will be a good lead-in to next month's County Board training meeting. Fried felt the County Board members were very receptive to the information provided.

**Town survey results:**

Sidlowski introduced John Langeland whom he invited to the meeting. Langeland is interested in helping out with the Technology Committee in the future and wants to get the Town of Sugar Camp involved in improving technology in Oneida County.

Grube provided handout to the committee, showing local survey results on availability and interest in technology which may be good information to provide at the upcoming County Board meeting. Grube notes other counties have asked her to share the survey results with them which she has done. Martini notes that when Oneida County residents and home owners are not satisfied with government services such as utilities or road maintenance, the government would immediately take notice. The Committee agrees that technology is one of the important needs of Oneida County residents and the survey results show residents are not satisfied with the technology services in the area and this should be addressed. Sidlowski lead the discussion on the survey results and possible meanings of these results. Fried states

**Town survey results (continued):**

he has been unable to contact most of the Oneida County townships but feels that the results obtained from the surveys so far have been fairly predictable. Fried feels the County Board will be far more concerned with getting and improving the service, not how the technology works. Fried states he will get together with Grube to get further survey results. Brown discussed the role UW-Extension could maybe take in the future once technology is further adopted in the Northwoods, offering support in the areas of technology education.

**County Board training session:**

**-Agenda, topics and presenters:** Brown provided draft outline for training session. Outline went into detail on suggested topics, presenters, objectives, format and length of each session. In depth discussion held on the outline provided. Brown to meet with presenters individually to get their portion of the meeting prepared. The County Board training session will be held May 22, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in the County Board room.

Brown also notes a Wisconsin Counties Association webinar on broadband is being held on May 20, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Rhinelander-Oneida County airport; all committee members and advisors are encouraged to attend.

**Promotion with private sector:**

Hintz states he would like the committee to contact local vendors to see if they would provide promotional pricing or discounts to Oneida County residents and property owners. Hintz discussed this with Oneida County Corporation Counsel who states the county can not pick a preferred provider but can send a letter stating the county is trying to promote technology and ask if they would provide promotions or discount pricing. Hintz is unsure if these promotions could be listed on the county website but Martini still feels the possibility of these promotions would be good information to provide to the County Board to show the interest and willingness of vendors to expand in our area if broadband infrastructure is improved. Fried states due to a large number of second residences in the county, vendors should be encouraged to offer short-term service contracts for seasonal residents. Martini notes for second residences pondering moving to the area full-time, providing flexible promotional packages may speed up their decision to relocate. Discussion held on the importance of providing the private sector with good information on the economic benefit for them if we want to expedite carriers bringing or improving their services to the area. Fried notes the importance of first improving the broadband infrastructure; Sidlowski agrees and provided an example from Winneconne, WI on the importance of the government investing money in the area in order to attract new businesses and residents.

**Transition plan:**

Hintz states the transition plan would basically outline where we go from here and who to include in that plan. The committee recognizes that other groups in the area are trying to accomplish similar goals as this committee and forming partnerships in order to create efficiencies is important. The committee would like to come up with a county wide policy on the expansion of technology and get the County Board to start including money in the yearly budget for laying additional fiber and conduit. In depth discussion held on the "dig first" option in which the county would coordinate with public and private companies such as Wisconsin Public Service and the Oneida County Highway Department to determine when stretches of road or utility wiring is being redone and have the conduit or fiber needed for broadband to be put in at the same time to save money. Martini to draft action statement.

**Public comments:**

None

**Next meeting date:**

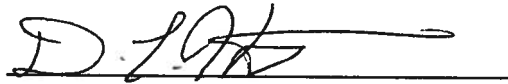
May 8, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. at the Rhinelander-Oneida County Airport

**Future agenda topics:**

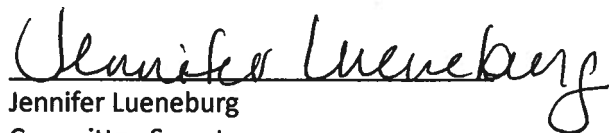
Agenda and rough draft of County Board presentation

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Martini to adjourn meeting. Second by Fried. All members present voting 'Aye'. Motion carried. Adjourn at 10:52 a.m.



Dave Hintz  
Committee Chair



Jennifer Lueneburg  
Committee Secretary